

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003421/25
to the Commission**

Paolo Inselvini (ECR), Carlo Fidanza (ECR), Nicola Procaccini (ECR), Mariateresa Vivaldini (ECR), Antonella Sberna (ECR), Sergio Berlato (ECR), Alessandro Ciriani (ECR), Lara Magoni (ECR), Pietro Fiocchi (ECR)
(4 September 2025)

Subject: Exclusion of Automotive Regions Alliance (ARA) from automotive sector meeting of 12 September

The European automotive sector is facing major challenges because of the green and digital transition. In this context, it is essential to have dialogue between all institutional and industrial entities to come up with effective and shared solutions.

The Automotive Regions Alliance (ARA), which brings together more than 40 European regions with a strong manufacturing presence and strategic supply chains in the sector, is an important representative to have on the journey through these changes.

However, it was not invited to the meeting with the automotive sector held on 12 September, organised as part of the strategic dialogue on the future of the sector. This decision has been met with criticism from regional representatives, who have stressed that excluding such a representative body limits the potential to present concrete proposals and local experience relevant to the decision-making process.

In view of the above:

1. Excluding an association representing a large number European regions sends the wrong message for institutional dialogue. Why was the ARA not invited to the automotive sector meeting of 12 September?
2. Will it involve the ARA in future discussions and strategic consultations?
3. What steps will it take to ensure truly inclusive and representative participation in the automotive sector's transition process?

Submitted: 4.9.2025

**Question for written answer E-003493/25
to the Commission**

Isabella Tovaglieri (Pfe), Paolo Borchia (Pfe), Anna Maria Cisint (Pfe), Silvia Sardone (Pfe), Roberto Vannacci (Pfe), Aldo Patriciello (Pfe), Massimiliano Salini (PPE), Susanna Ceccardi (Pfe), Raffaele Stancanelli (Pfe)
(9 September 2025)

Subject: Exclusion of the Automotive Regions Alliance from the strategic dialogue on the future of the automotive industry

The Commission has announced that the third meeting of the strategic dialogue on the future of the automotive industry will be held on 12 September to discuss implementation of the action plan for the sector ⁽¹⁾.

The Automotive Regions Alliance (ARA), set up by the Committee of the Regions and including 40 highly specialised European regions representing the sector, has again rightly stressed the need for its participation, as the voice of its regional members.

The Commission has again kept it out of the initiative, despite repeatedly acknowledging the regional relevance of the issues at stake, on the grounds that it could not be further enlarged without depriving participants of sufficient time to express their views. This justification risks prioritising organisational efficiency over the need to represent Europe's regions, thus sacrificing inclusiveness and transparency.

In the light of the above:

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52025DC0095>.

1. Why does the Commission not believe the participation of an alliance established by the CoR, which can offer essential regional expertise in the transition of the sector, to provide added value?
2. Does the ARA's exclusion not remove key stakeholders from the European decision-making process, thus potentially depriving the EU's strategic choices of regional legitimacy?
3. How does the Commission justify the contradiction between its stated commitment to ensuring the involvement of regions and territories in decision-making processes while excluding them from strategic discussions of this magnitude?

Submitted: 9.9.2025

Joint answer given by President von der Leyen on behalf of the European Commission
(21 November 2025)

The Strategic Dialogue is an inclusive and collaborative process aimed at addressing critical challenges facing the sector and ensuring its continued success as a major driver of the European economy.

As stated in the Industrial Action Plan for the European automotive sector ⁽¹⁾ that was the outcome of the first two meetings of the Dialogue, the sector is undergoing a structural transformation of unprecedented speed and magnitude.

To ensure the broadest possible participation in the preparation of the action plan, the Commission invited input from more than 100 organisations in dedicated thematic dialogues, among them also the Automotive Regions Alliance.

The Strategic Dialogue has shown its value as a forum of exchange between the President of the Commission and representatives of the industry.

For practical reasons, the size of the group cannot be expanded further to allow sufficient time for all participants to express themselves. This is not merely a matter of organisational efficiency but an essential requirement to ensure effective exchange.

The Commission is consulting stakeholders extensively in the preparation of the proposals announced in the action plan. The Committee of the Regions, under whose auspices the Automotive Regions Alliance has been formed, will also be consulted on the legislative proposals.

⁽¹⁾ COM(2025) 95 final, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52025DC0095>.